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Identification and Remediation of Contaminated Sites with Persistent Organic Pollutants Project Newsletter



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41st Operation Coordination Unit (OCU) Meeting



We held the 41st OCU Meeting online on 22 January with the participation of representatives from the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change (MoEUCC), the Delegation of the European Union to Türkiye (EUD), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Türkiye Country Office project team. We reviewed the project's monthly work plan during the meeting and discussed the remaining activities. Additionally, the project team proposed suggestions for further activities to complement the existing ones.

We discussed the dates for the Contaminated Sites Information System (CSIS) Training, Dissemination Seminar, Study Visit, and Closing Event with project stakeholders. Additionally, we are planning to have a separate meeting to present the report prepared on the circularity of POPs and environmentally sound management of chemicals.

Progress of the Project Activities

Throughout January, we continued to organize our weekly meetings with the technical departments of the MoEUCC to discuss activity plans of the project.

We held our first meeting on 8 January with representatives from the sector, led by our expert conducting the current situation analysis research for improved management of POPs and chemicals. During this meeting, attended by 42 representatives from both the ministry's headquarters and the sector, we listened to proposals aimed at addressing challenges in chemical management.



Following the sector meeting, we met with representatives from the Ministry on 9 January for a general assessment. We will continue to engage with the sector and search for international resources to further the development of the report.



We have almost completed the studies on the Regulation on Control of Soil Pollution and Sites Contaminated by Point Sources. We presented the updated regulation study that was prepared by our experts to the General Manager and Deputy General Managers of Environmental Management, in two separate meetings that were held on 16 and 17 January. The soil Pollution Expert presented the final works, along with notes taken during these meetings, to the Water and Soil Management Department.





We organized the Contaminated Sites Information System Training in Antalya on 29-30-31 January along with the participation of personnel from central and provincial directorates of the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change. We provided information about the software program that was updated according to final studies on the Regulation on Control of Soil Pollution and Sites Contaminated by Point Sources in the training that 172 representatives attended. We conducted practical exercises to demonstrate the stages in the software program that includes the cleanup and remediation module. Additionally, we distributed user guidelines to Provincial Directorates, facilities, and companies authorized by MoEUCC. During the training, we organized evaluation sessions and answered participants' questions through online surveys.



The independent evaluation expert held various meetings with the project technical assistance team and project stakeholders to prepare the report that evaluates the implementation process of the project. In February, the expert will present the final report that includes recommendations and notes taken during these meetings.

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